

## LA-UR-21-23892

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Title:        | PreMevE: A Machine-learning Based Predictive Model for MeV Electrons<br>inside Earth's Outer Radiation Belt |
| Author(s):    | Chen, Yue<br>Pires de Lima, Pafael<br>Sinha, Saurabh<br>Lin, Youzuo   |
| Intended for: | EGU General Assembly, 2021-04-19/2021-04-30 (Los Alamos, New Mexico,<br>United States)                      |
| Issued:       | 2021-05-21 (rev.1)  |

---

**Disclaimer:**

Los Alamos National Laboratory, an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, is operated by Triad National Security, LLC for the National Nuclear Security Administration of U.S. Department of Energy under contract 89233218CNA000001. By approving this article, the publisher recognizes that the U.S. Government retains nonexclusive, royalty-free license to publish or reproduce the published form of this contribution, or to allow others to do so, for U.S. Government purposes. Los Alamos National Laboratory requests that the publisher identify this article as work performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy. Los Alamos National Laboratory strongly supports academic freedom and a researcher's right to publish; as an institution, however, the Laboratory does not endorse the viewpoint of a publication or guarantee its technical correctness.

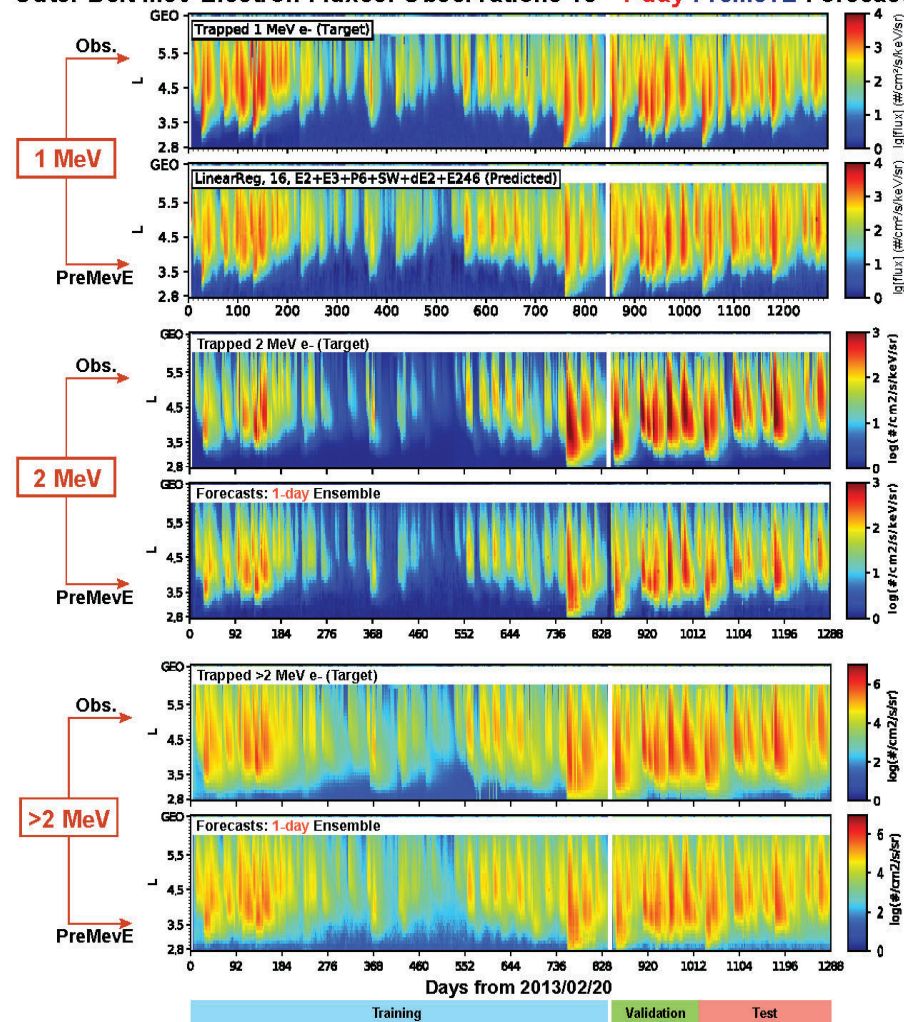
# PreMevE: A Machine-Learning Based Predictive Model for MeV Electrons inside Earth's Outer Radiation Belt

Yue Chen, Rafael Pires de Lima, Saurabh Sinha, and Youzuo Lin

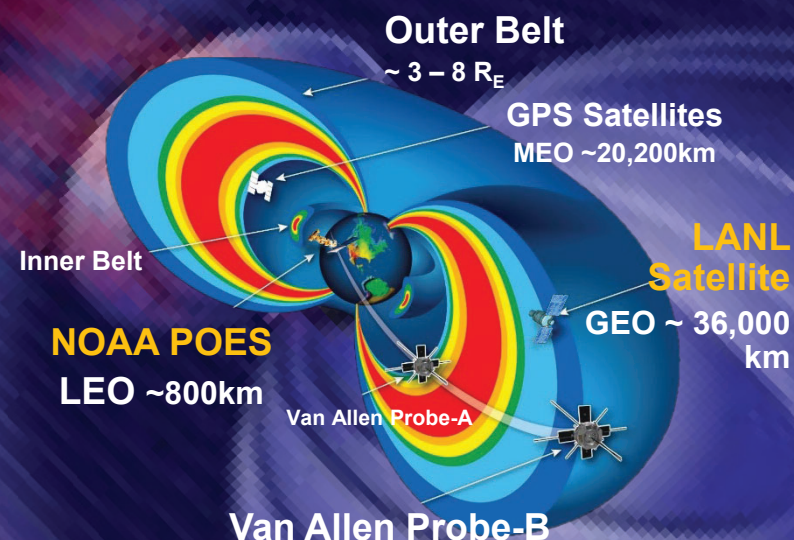
➤ Model Inputs: **NOAA-15** electron data in LEO, **LANL-01A** electron data in GEO, and **solar wind** velocity and density data at L1 point.

➤ Model Outputs: Nowcasts, 1-day and 2-day forecasts of MeV electron flux spatial distributions across outer belt L-shells with a 5 hr time resolution.

Outer Belt MeV Electron Fluxes: Observations vs ~1-day PreMevE Forecasts



**Solar wind Monitors**  
L1 ~1,500,000 km





# PreMevE: A Machine-learning Based Predictive Model for MeV Electrons inside Earth's Outer Radiation Belt

Yue Chen<sup>1</sup>, Rafael Pires de Lima<sup>2,3</sup>, Saurabh Sinha<sup>2</sup>,  
and Youzuo Lin<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Los Alamos National Laboratory

<sup>2</sup> University of Oklahoma

<sup>3</sup> Geological Survey of Brazil, San Paulo

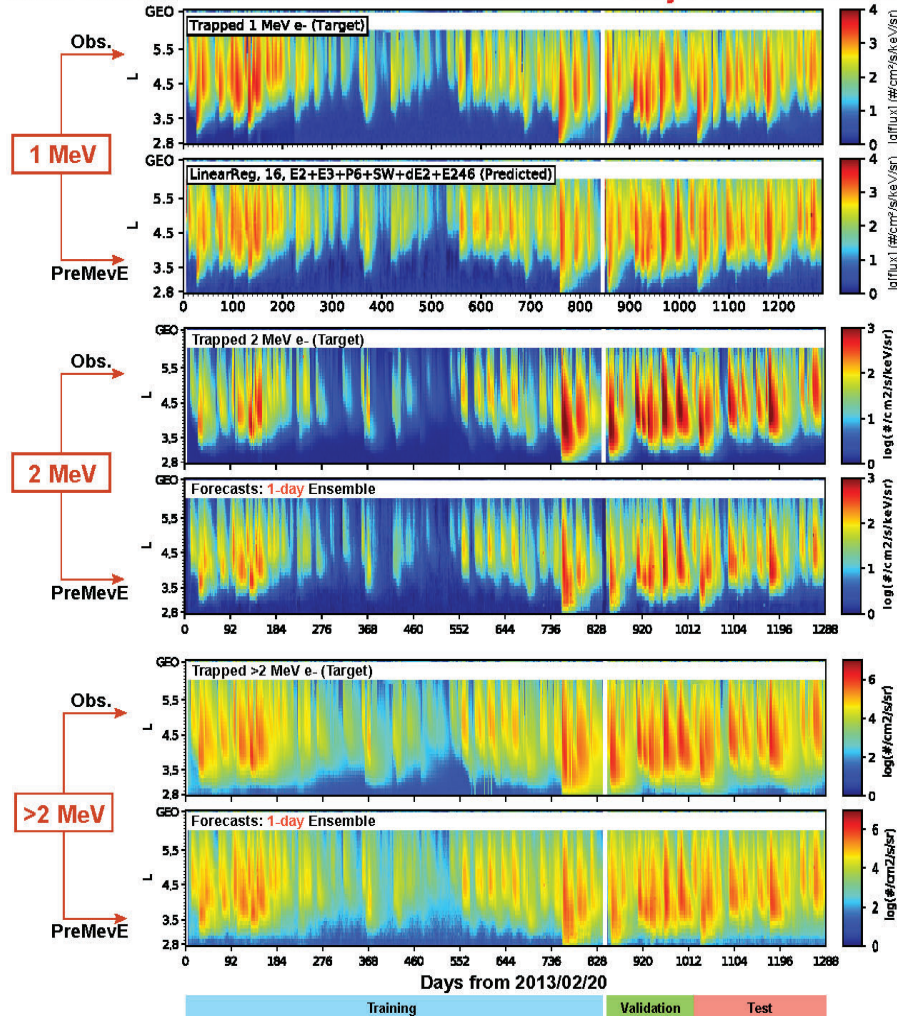


EGU General Assembly 2021  
EGU21-8545  
April, 2021



# 01. Overview of PreMevE

Outer Belt MeV Electron Fluxes: Observations vs ~1-day PreMevE Forecasts



- **PreMevE** is a lightweight and machine-learning driven model to **predict** outer-belt **MeV** electron distributions.
- **Model Inputs:**
  - NOAA-15 E2, E3 and P6 electron counts in LEO
  - LANL-01A MeV electron fluxes in GEO
  - Solar wind velocities and densities measured at L1 point.
- **Model Outputs:**
  - Nowcasts, 1- and 2-day forecasts of MeV electron events
  - Electron spatial distributions at L-shells between ~3-7 with a 5 hr time resolution.
  - 1 MeV, 2 MeV, and >2 MeV electron fluxes

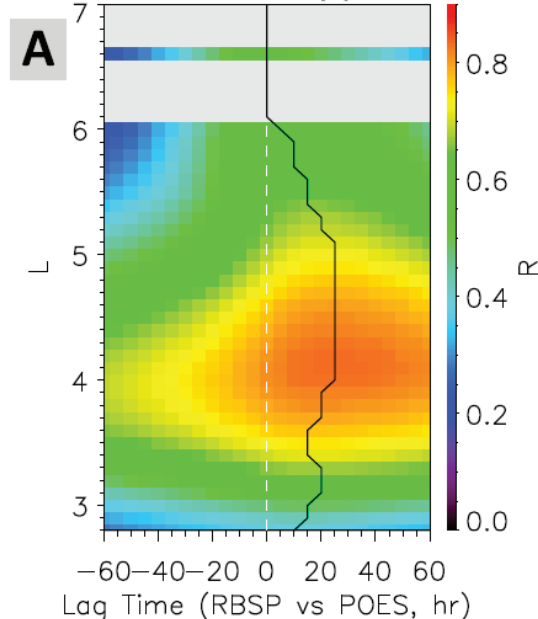
## References:

- Chen, Y., Reeves, G.D., Cunningham, G.S., Redmon, R.J., & Henderson, M.G. (2016). Forecasting and remote sensing outer belt relativistic electrons from low Earth orbit. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 43, 1031–1038. <https://doi.org/10.1002/2015GL067481>
- Chen, Y., Reeves, G.D., Fu, X., & Henderson, M. (2019). PreMevE: New predictive model for megaelectron-volt electrons inside Earth's outer radiation belt. *Space Weather*, 17. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2018SW002095>
- Pires de Lima, R., Chen, Y., & Lin, Y. (2020). Forecasting megaelectron-volt electrons inside Earth's outer radiation belt: PreMevE 2.0 based on supervised machine learning algorithms. *Space Weather*, 18, e2019SW002399. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019SW002399>
- Sinha, Saurabh, Chen, Y., Lin, Y., & Pires de Lima, R. (2021). PreMevE update: Forecasting ultra-relativistic electrons inside Earth's outer radiation belt, submitted to *Space Weather*, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.09055>

## 02. MeV Electron Physics and Prediction



CC: POES E2 & Trapped 1 MeV

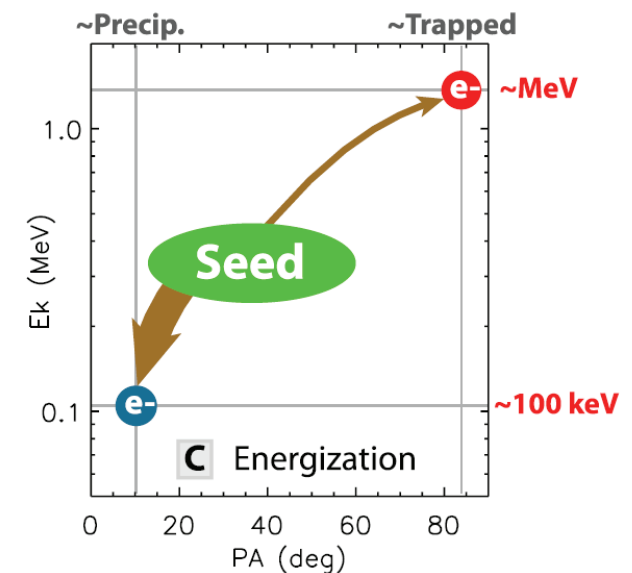


- MeV electron enhancements are related to the local acceleration from local wave-particle resonance and/or radial diffusion.
- Challenges for simulation/prediction:
  - Global distributions of waves
  - Specification of seed electron population
  - Background conditions
  - Event specific
- Our Solution:
  - Continuous measurements from long-standing space infrastructure
  - Cross-energy, cross-pitch-angle coherence discovered (left plot)
  - Power of machine-learning algorithms for linear and non-linear relationship
  - Simultaneous long-term in-situ measurements from Van Allen Probes mission

### ○ Selection of Input Parameters:

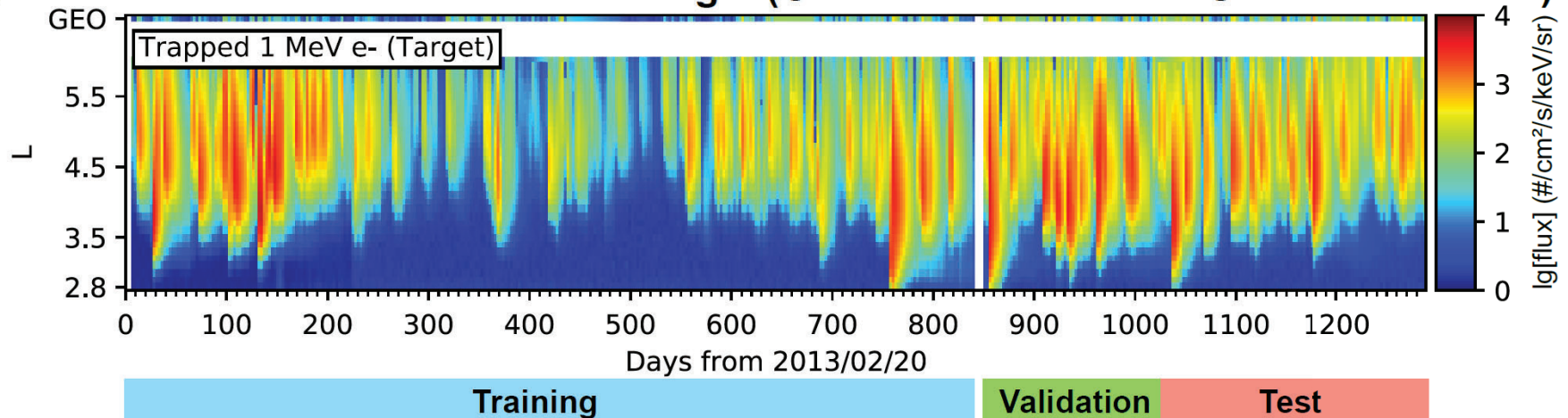
- Use precipitating seed electrons (POES E2) at LEO to forecast MeV electron levels during enhancements (right plot)
- Use precipitating relativistic electrons (POES E3 and P6) to forecast MeV electron levels during decays
- Solar wind conditions to account for radial diffusion; LANL GEO electron fluxes included to improve accuracy

- **Metaphor Q:** How to know the water temperature (=MeV electron level) atop a camp fire with no direct measurement? **Answer:** count wood ashes (=precipitation E2) and measure spilled water (=precipitation P6).



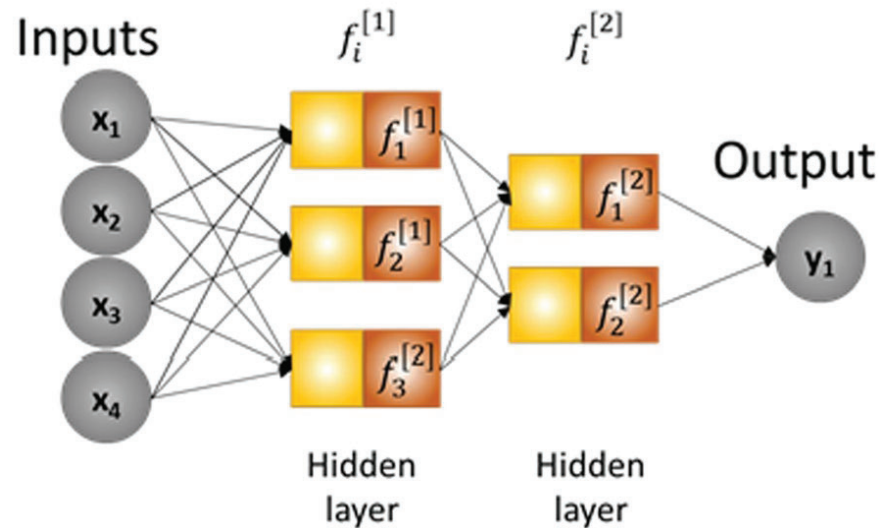
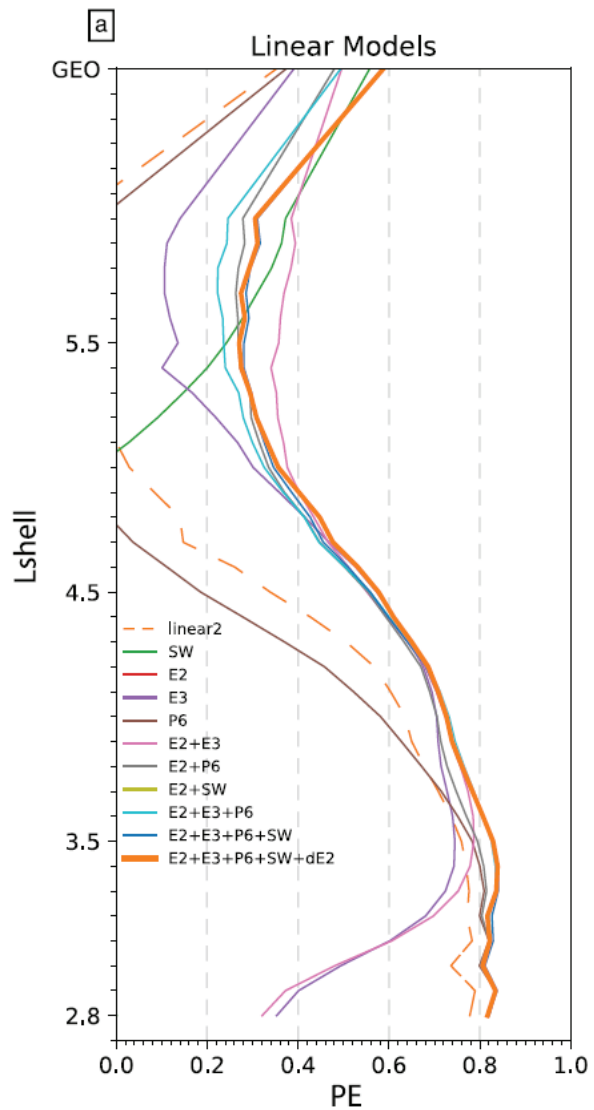
## 03. Model Training, Validation and Test

### Outer Belt 1 MeV Electron Fluxes: Target (Observations from RBSP-a & LANL 01A)



- Target Data: RBSP-a and LANL-01A MeV electron spin-averaged fluxes over 1289 days; 5 hourly binned and sorted by L-shells
  - Only used for model development and NOT NEEDED as model inputs
  - Many MeV events
  - Training interval: ~65% of data
  - Validation: ~14%
  - Test: ~21%
  - Model trained for individual L-shells
- Prediction Efficiency (PE) as model performance metric
  - Calculated for each individual L-shells
  - Averaged over L-shells for a single PE value for each model
  - Focus on out-of-sample PE values during validation and test periods

## 04. Algorithms and Input Parameter Combinations



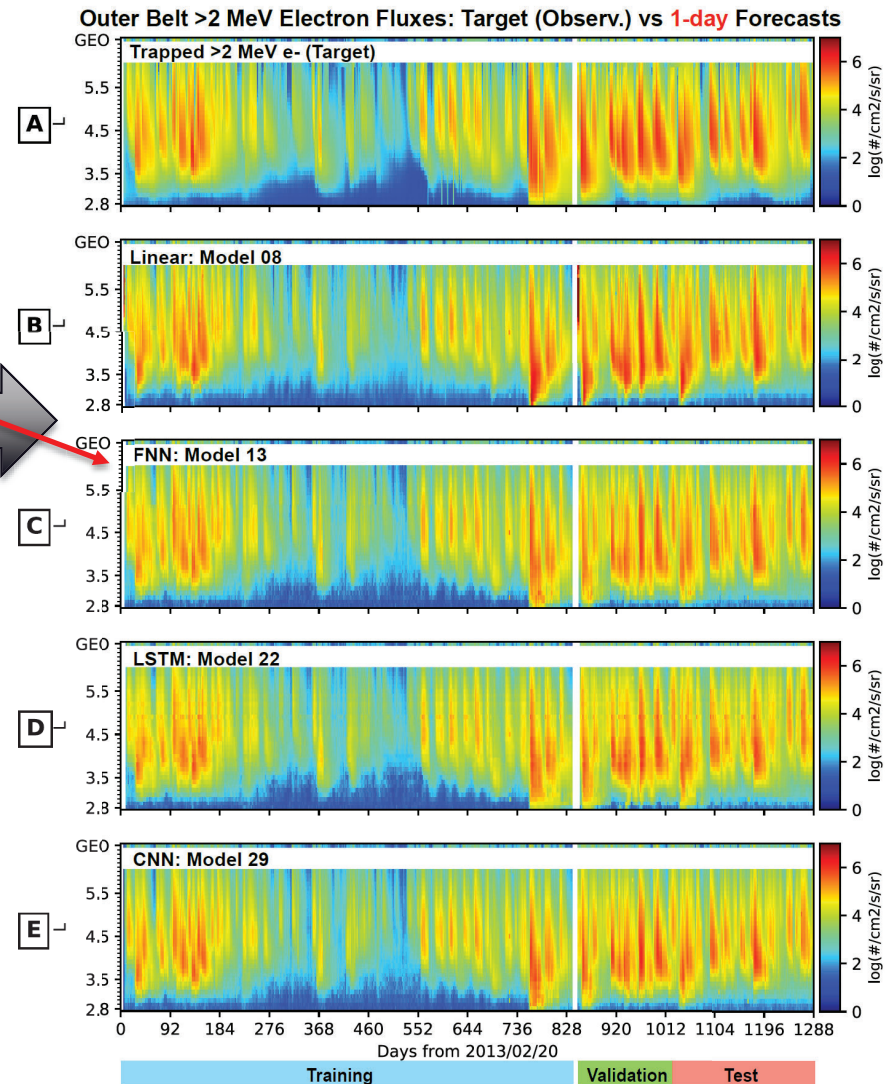
- Supervised Learning Algorithms:
  - Linear regression
  - Feedforward Neural Networks (top plot for a two neuron layers)
  - Convolutional NN (CNN)
  - Long-short-term Memory (LSTM)
- Test Input Parameter Combinations and others:
  - Window sizes of past history
  - Parameter sensitivity (left plot)
  - NN layers



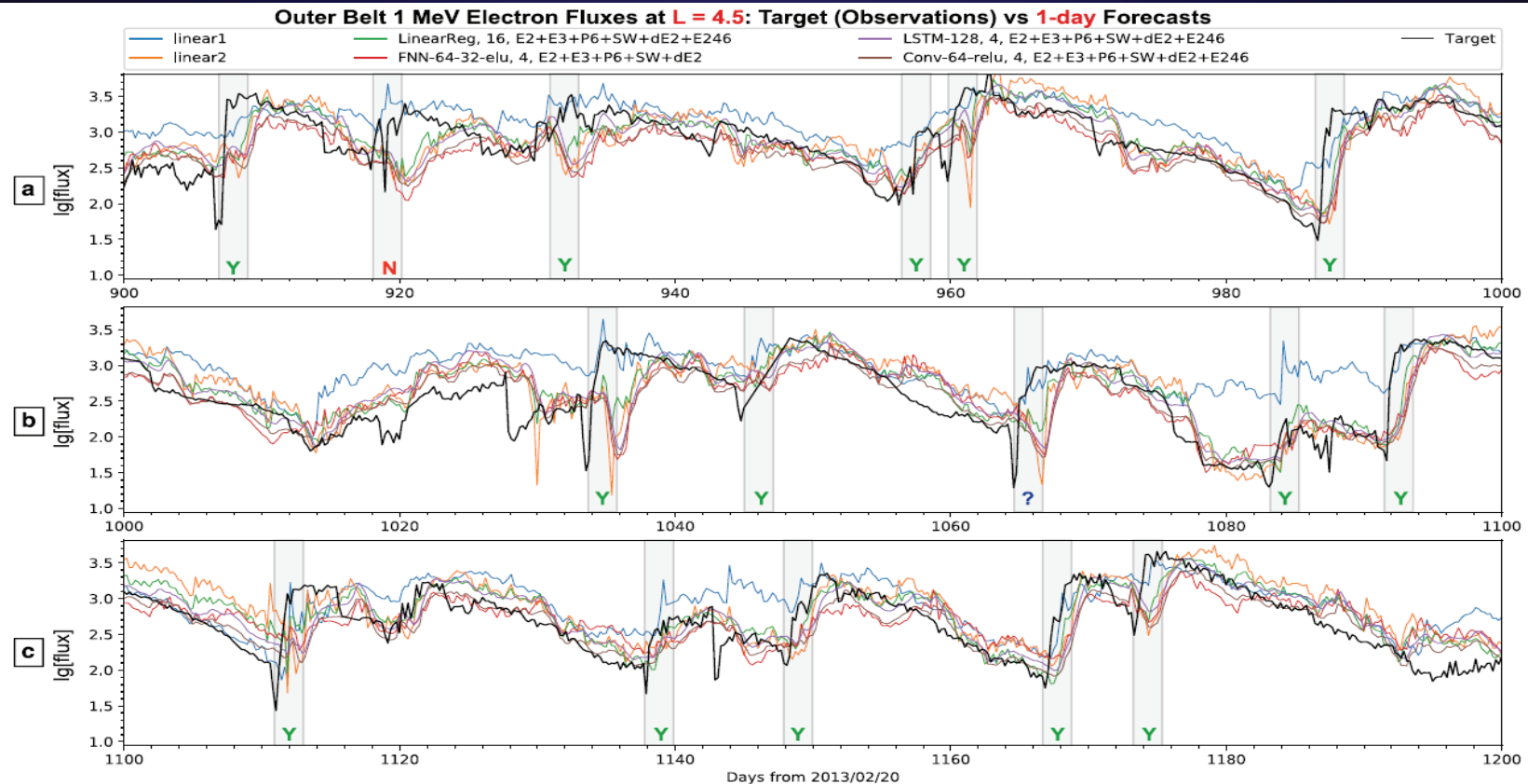
# 05. Model Selection and Forecasts

| Index | Models                            | Window size | Input Parameters         | PE train | PE validation | PE test | PE val + test | PE all | PE GEO val+test |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|----------|---------------|---------|---------------|--------|-----------------|
| 1     | LinearReg                         | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW              | 0.712    | 0.108         | 0.454   | 0.414         | 0.707  | 0.621           |
| 2     | LinearReg                         | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW              | 0.742    | 0.194         | 0.509   | 0.470         | 0.736  | 0.623           |
| 3     | LinearReg                         | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.714    | 0.112         | 0.461   | 0.420         | 0.709  | 0.622           |
| 4     | LinearReg                         | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.747    | 0.197         | 0.523   | 0.479         | 0.741  | 0.625           |
| 5     | LinearReg                         | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.736    | 0.188         | 0.486   | 0.456         | 0.731  | 0.622           |
| 6     | LinearReg                         | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.763    | 0.255         | 0.548   | 0.509         | 0.757  | 0.625           |
| 7     | LinearReg                         | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.741    | 0.193         | 0.502   | 0.466         | 0.736  | 0.627           |
| 8     | LinearReg                         | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.770    | 0.266         | 0.568   | 0.513         | 0.764  | 0.629           |
| 9     | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW              | 0.686    | 0.202         | 0.463   | 0.426         | 0.690  | 0.631           |
| 10    | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW              | 0.699    | 0.331         | 0.459   | 0.460         | 0.704  | 0.620           |
| 11    | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.644    | 0.216         | 0.403   | 0.395         | 0.658  | 0.630           |
| 12    | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.716    | 0.319         | 0.511   | 0.488         | 0.720  | 0.603           |
| 13    | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.766    | 0.404         | 0.566   | 0.553         | 0.765  | 0.630           |
| 14    | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.704    | 0.200         | 0.441   | 0.408         | 0.609  | 0.624           |
| 15    | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.713    | 0.266         | 0.456   | 0.446         | 0.713  | 0.646           |
| 16    | FNN-64-32-elu                     | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.715    | 0.195         | 0.392   | 0.384         | 0.703  | 0.621           |
| 17    | LSTM-128                          | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW              | 0.662    | 0.208         | 0.445   | 0.414         | 0.673  | 0.527           |
| 18    | LSTM-128                          | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW              | 0.750    | 0.366         | 0.537   | 0.521         | 0.747  | 0.581           |
| 19    | LSTM-128                          | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.665    | 0.198         | 0.440   | 0.410         | 0.675  | 0.538           |
| 20    | LSTM-128                          | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.740    | 0.287         | 0.526   | 0.489         | 0.737  | 0.588           |
| 21    | LSTM-128                          | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.700    | 0.282         | 0.472   | 0.459         | 0.706  | 0.535           |
| 22    | LSTM-128                          | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.781    | 0.401         | 0.545   | 0.537         | 0.771  | 0.600           |
| 23    | LSTM-128                          | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.671    | 0.140         | 0.387   | 0.365         | 0.674  | 0.648           |
| 24    | LSTM-128                          | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.799    | 0.348         | 0.507   | 0.499         | 0.777  | 0.571           |
| 25    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW              | 0.702    | 0.289         | 0.462   | 0.453         | 0.705  | 0.593           |
| 26    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW              | -0.178   | -3.765        | -2.170  | -2.333        | -0.341 | -0.002          |
| 27    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.710    | 0.292         | 0.477   | 0.462         | 0.711  | 0.596           |
| 28    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2          | 0.186    | -2.251        | -1.138  | -1.268        | 0.078  | -0.081          |
| 29    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.719    | 0.324         | 0.480   | 0.479         | 0.722  | 0.598           |
| 30    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+dE2+E246     | 0.110    | -2.382        | -1.334  | -1.398        | 0.006  | -0.168          |
| 31    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 4           | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.749    | 0.285         | 0.497   | 0.477         | 0.742  | 0.566           |
| 32    | Conv-64-32-relu                   | 16          | E2+E3+P6+SW+SWD+dE2+E246 | 0.065    | -2.861        | -1.636  | -1.733        | -0.080 | 0.074           |
| 33    | Ensemble: models 8 + 13 + 22 + 29 |             |                          | 0.782    | 0.393         | 0.625   | 0.612         | 0.783  | 0.677           |

- 1-day forecasts of  $>2$  MeV electron distributions as example
- Top Performer from each of the four categories are selected based on the highest out-of-sample PE (top table), and forecast results are compared to observations (right)
- Model performance depends on L-shells

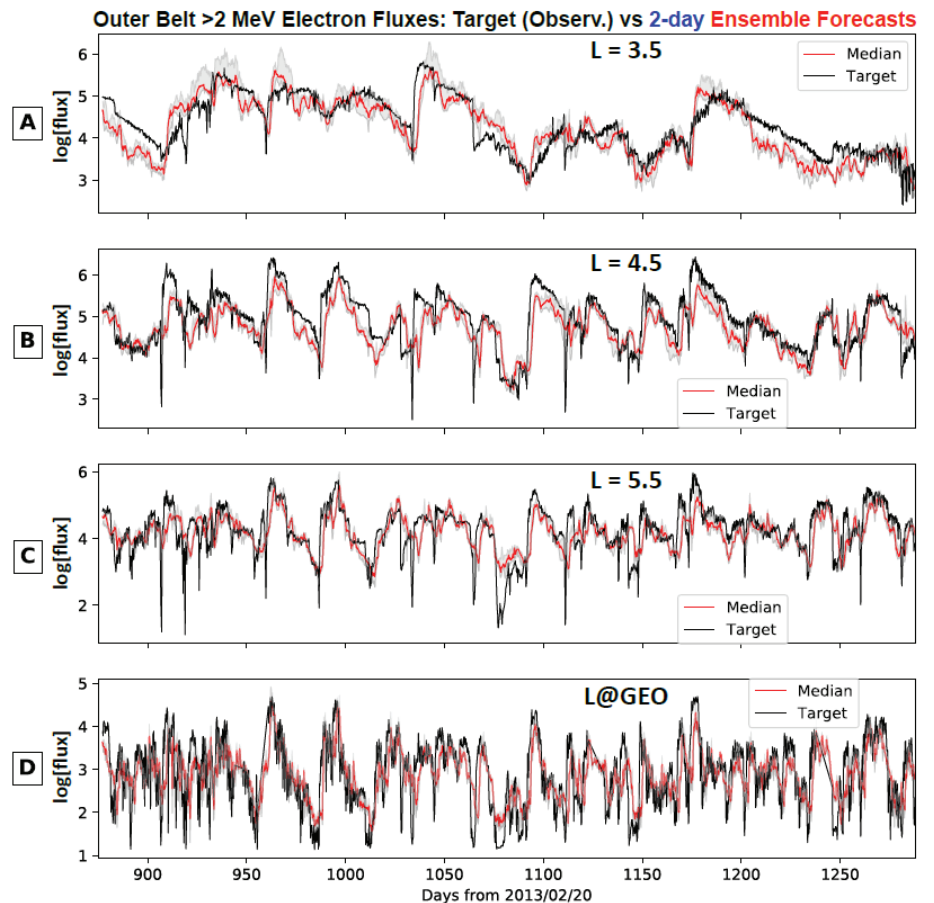
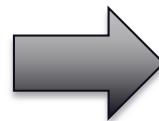
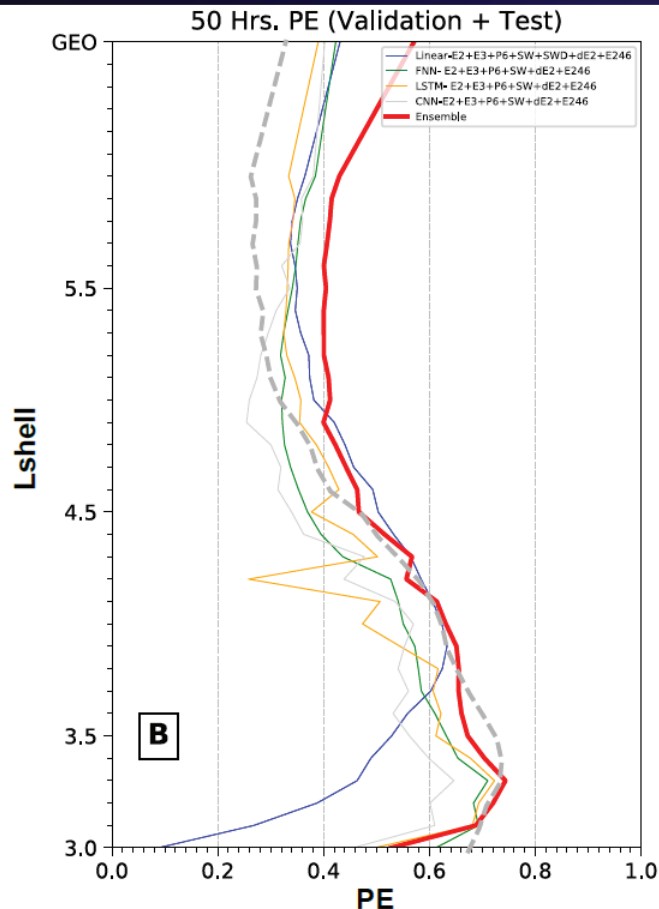


## 06. Details of Forecasting Results



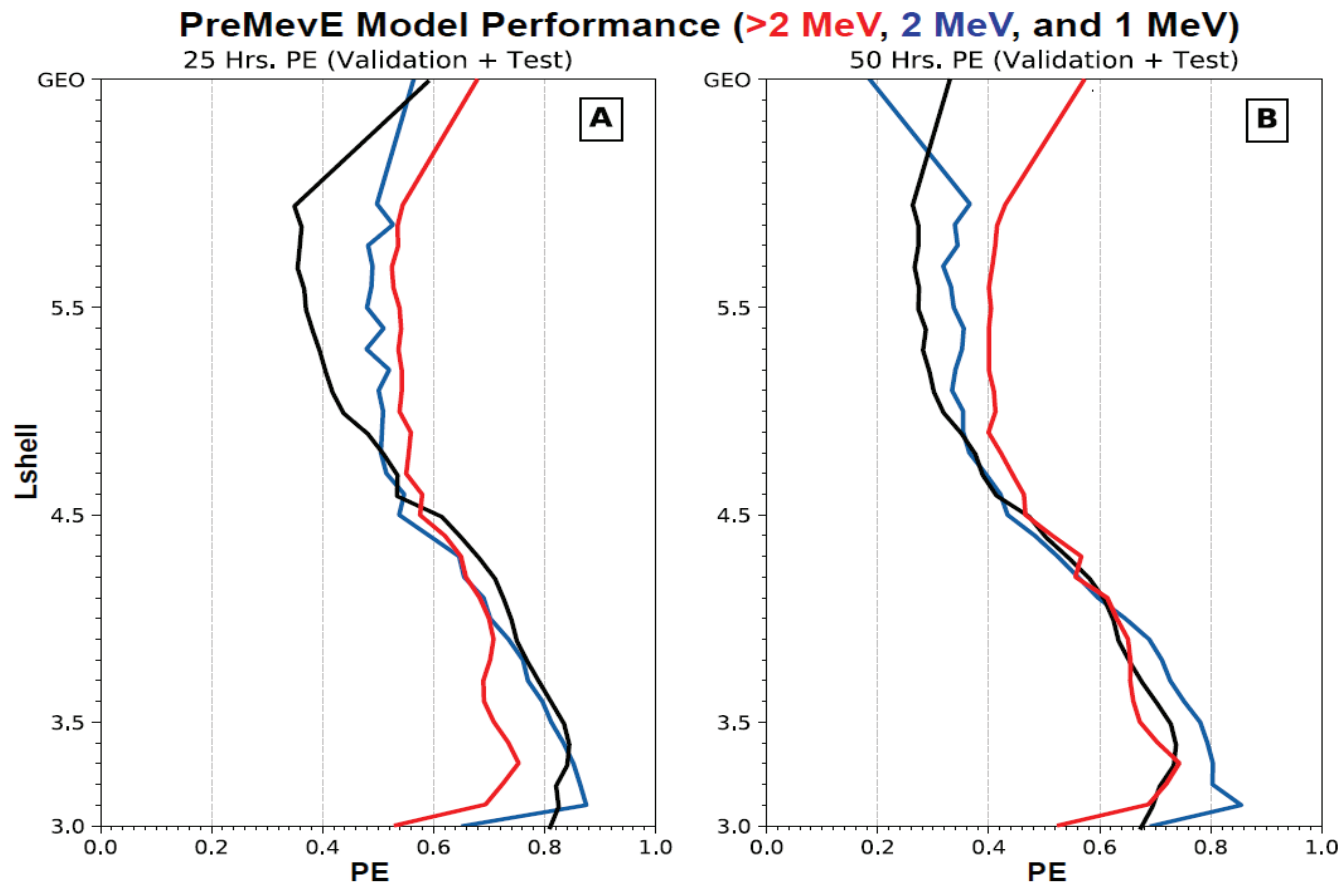
- 1-day forecasts of 1 MeV electron fluxes at L=4.5 during the validation and test periods (days 900 – 1200) are shown as example
- Black curve is the target; top performers from each of the four categories are clustered in different colors (not the blue curve from linear filter)
- Dynamics and flux levels of 1 MeV electron events are well captured
- Most of the onsets are predicted (Y) by the models within the prediction window of 25-hr width.

# 07. Ensemble Forecasting Results



- 2-day forecasts of >2 MeV e- fluxes at L=4.5 during validation and test periods are shown as example
- **Not one single model outperform others at all L-shells**
- The ensemble model generally has the higher PE (the red thick curve in left plot) compared to individual models
- Medians of ensemble forecasts (red curve in right plot) capture the observed dynamics (black) well.

## 08. PreMevE Model Performance: PE Curves

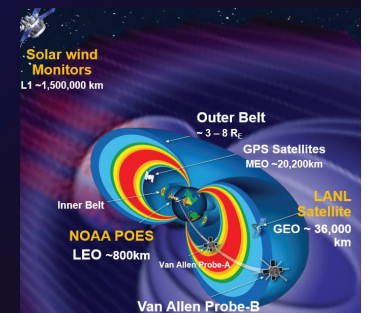


- PreMevE model makes reliable 1- and 2-day predictions on flux distributions of >2 MeV (red), 2 MeV (blue) and 1 MeV (black) electrons
- At GEO, the highest PE values are for >2 MeV electron fluxes, similar to those of REFM.
- Take >2 MeV electrons as example, the L-averaged PE has a value of 0.612 for 1-day forecasts, and 0.521 for 2-day forecasts, comparing to PE values of 0.677 and 0.572 at GEO.



## Summary and Conclusions

- Coherences (including recently discovered cross-energy cross-pitch-angle coherence) in trapped electrons are employed to develop PreMevE for nowcasting and forecasting MeV electrons in the outer belt, using inputs from LEO (POES), GEO and L1 observations. High performance of PreMevE is demonstrated by comparing to long-term in-situ data from RBSP, suggesting PreMevE be an invaluable tool for satellite operators and decision makers.
- Long-standing LEO data are used innovatively here. Existing NOAA POES constellation can play a new and powerful role in space weather remote-sensing and prediction. New opportunity for next-generation LEO (low-cost) space weather mission.
- Future direction: PreMevE may significantly improve its performance by incorporating in-situ data from such as the long-lasting GPS particle instruments.



**Contact: Dr. Yue Chen: [cheny@lanl.gov](mailto:cheny@lanl.gov)**